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2017 Middle East and North Africa Program EU-Middle East Forum (EUMEF)

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2017 Middle East and North Africa Program EU-Middle East Forum (EUMEF)

Disciplines

International and Area Studies | Political Science | Public Affairs, Public Policy and Public Administration

Comments

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Middle East and North Africa Program EU – Middle East Forum (EUMEF)

Facing Increasingly Complex Realities and Policy-Making – The Role and Challenges of Think Tanks Today

Study Tour of the
EU – Middle East Forum

February 22–24, 2017, Berlin

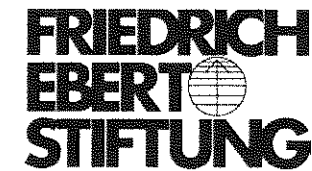


Facing Increasingly Complex Realities and Policy-Making — The Role and Challenges of Think Tanks Today



In cooperation with

Robert Bosch Stiftung



Study Tour of the
EU – Middle East Forum
Berlin 2017

Robert Bosch Stiftung

Established in 1964, the Robert Bosch Stiftung GmbH is one of the major German foundations associated with a private company. It represents the philanthropic and social endeavors of Robert Bosch (1861–1942) and fulfills his legacy in a contemporary manner. The Robert Bosch Stiftung works predominantly in the fields of International Relations, Health, and Education. The EU-Middle East Forum, as well as its predecessors, the International Forum on Strategic Thinking (IFST) and the Forum European Foreign and Security Policy, have been carried out in close cooperation between DGAP and Robert Bosch Stiftung.



The Friedrich-Ebert-Stiftung (FES) is the oldest political foundation in Germany with a rich tradition in social democracy dating back to its foundation in 1925. The foundation owes its formation and its mission to the political legacy of its namesake Friedrich Ebert, the first democratically elected German President. The work of the FES focuses on the core ideas and values of social democracy – freedom, justice and solidarity. This connects the FES to social democracy and free trade unions. The FES supports and strengthens social democracy in particular by means of political educational work, think tanks, international cooperation, support for talented young people and the collective memory of social democracy (archive, library and contemporary history projects of the FES). As a non-profit institution, the FES organizes its work autonomously and independently.

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German Council on Foreign Relations (DGAP)

The German Council on Foreign Relations (DGAP) is Germany's network for foreign policy. As an independent, non-partisan, and nonprofit membership organization, think tank, and publisher, DGAP has been promoting public debate on foreign policy in Germany for over 50 years. Among its over 2,500 active members are renowned representatives from politics, business, academia, and the media – as well as more than 70 companies and foundations which support DGAP's work. DGAP's goals are to promote and contribute to foreign policy debates in Germany, to advise decision makers from politics, business and civil society, and to inform the public about foreign policy issues. DGAP comprises the think tank, the journal IP, the library and documentation center, and the platform Young DGAP.

DGAP's *think tank* works at the junction between politics, academia, and the economy. Its work is interdisciplinary and policy-oriented and covers different areas of German foreign policy in a globalized and rapidly changing world. The think tank's activities include research and publications, high-profile conferences and meetings as well as programs for the advancement of young professionals.

The journal *Internationale Politik (IP)* appears in German as a bimonthly print magazine and in English as an **online magazine** on German and European foreign policy. IP Journal offers German perspectives on important foreign affairs issues as well as in-depth analyses on central questions of German and European foreign policy by renowned authors and experts in and outside of Germany.

The DGAP *Library and Documentation Center (BiDoK)* is one of the oldest and most significant specialized libraries in Germany that is open to the public. It holds substantial collections on German foreign and security policy.

The *Young DGAP* is an initiative for members of DGAP under the age of 35. It aims at encouraging more young people to take an active interest in foreign and security policy through innovative events such as controversial debates and discussions with senior decision-makers.

Middle East and North Africa Program and the EU-Middle East Forum (EUMEF)

DGAP's Middle East and North Africa Program analyzes the many implications of the developments underway in the Arab world: for regional security, for the economy, and within society as a whole. To this end, the program works closely with experts and multipliers from countries in the region. The program's workshops, background discussions, and publications are designed to pry open complex issues, generate knowledge, propose solutions, and help create mutual insight into the sometimes conflicting interests and needs of the Arab and European sides.

The EU-Middle East Forum

The EU-Middle East Forum (EUMEF) has been serving as a platform for professional exchange, capacity building, cooperation, networking, and intercultural dialogue for young and mid-level experts from North Africa, Turkey, and Europe since 2011. The forum has focused on the transformation processes and developments in North Africa as well as German and European policies connected to these by discussing socio-economic and socio-political issues in addition to security-related questions. EUMEF targets young and mid-level experts from civil society, academia, the economic and political domains, and the media. Participants are predominantly from Egypt, Tunisia, Morocco, Turkey, Germany, and other European countries.

The forum's three day *policy workshops* include presentations by participants and invited experts, who discuss and analyze a specific political, economic, social, or security-related issue. Its *capacity building workshops* aim to equip employees of think tanks or similar academic institutions with the necessary tools and qualifications to further improve the quality of their work. For this purpose, the forum offers a range of modules, including scenario workshops.

Following the workshops, policy briefs are produced to share the content-related outcomes with the wider public and to allow participants to practice their writing and publishing skills. Finally, EUMEF organizes an annual *study tour* in Germany for 20 alumni of the forum. The study tour offers participants the opportunity to get an insight into German think tanks and their activities, with the aim of giving them new impulses for their own work and projects.

This three-level approach allows us to bring together future leaders at different stages of their careers, ensuring a professional exchange of participants over a longer period of time and their long-term integration into the network. Alumni are actively included in the organization of EUMEF events, be it as speakers, discussants, or partners.

Team

Head of Program: Dina Fakoussa | fakoussa@dgap.org

Program Officer: Laura Lale Kabis-Kechrid | kabis@dgap.org

Dina Fakoussa (GERMANY/ EGYPT)



Dina Fakoussa took up the post as head of the EU-Middle East Forum in March 2011 and became head of the MENA program in 2014. She has been working for many years in leading positions in international development cooperation and policy advice targeting the Arab region. In these capacities she, among others, conceptualized and edited publications, workshops, and online projects on politics, media, and culture in Iraq and drew up analyses of political and socio-economic developments in the region. She also worked intensively on the issues of democratization, human and women's rights, and conflict resolution with a focus on Lebanon, Syria, and Egypt. Her last position abroad was at the German Heinrich-Böll-Stiftung – the political Green Foundation in Lebanon, where she worked for two years as program manager. Dina is Egyptian-German. She obtained her Bachelor of Arts in political science with a minor in economics from the American University in Cairo and her Master of Arts in international relations from the Freie Universität Berlin.

Laura Lale Kabis-Kechrid (TURKEY/GERMANY)

Laura Lale Kabis-Kechrid has been working as program officer in the Middle East and North Africa program since 2015. She also worked as assistant for the program's research project on the "Engagement of the Arab Gulf States Saudi Arabia, Qatar, and the United Arab Emirates in Egypt and Tunisia" from late 2014 until mid-2015. Her main areas of study are social and political developments in Turkey, as well as Turkish domestic and foreign policies. She has written policy analyses and reports for the DGAP Consulting and the Palmedia publishing house and is currently working on a number of publications for the DGAP. She also taught two seminar modules on EU-Turkey relations at Freie Universität Berlin during the fall semester 2016. In addition to her work at the DGAP, Laura supports the Muslim Jewish Conference (MJC) and worked as a tutor at the International Summer School for Intercultural Leadership organized by the EU's Aladdin Program and Freie Universität Berlin. Laura is German-Turkish and studied business administration (BSc), international relations (MA), and history (MA) at Humboldt University, Queen Mary University of London, and Dubrovnik International University.



Christian Mölling (GERMANY)



Christian Mölling became deputy director of the DGAP's research institute in February 2017. Before joining the DGAP, he held research and leadership positions with the German Marshall Fund of the United States (GMF), the International Security Research Division at the German Institute for International and Security Affairs (SWP), the Center for Security Studies at ETH Zurich, and the Hamburg Institute for Peace Research and Security Policy. He has been a visiting fellow at the European Union Institute for Security Studies in Paris, the Royal United Services Institute (RUSI) in London, and the Paris-based Fondation pour la recherche stratégique. He studied politics, economics, and history at the universities of Duisburg and Warwick and holds a doctoral degree from Ludwig Maximilian Universität Munich.

Partners (in alphabetical order)

Irene Weinz (GERMANY)



Irene Weinz works as senior project manager at the department "International Relations - Europe and its Neighbors" of the Robert Bosch Stiftung GmbH in Stuttgart, Germany. She is responsible for the department's activities in the field of governance. Before joining the foundation in 2007, Irene Weinz worked as research associate at the Department of Law at the Freie Universität Berlin. During her studies of political science at Freie Universität Berlin and Charles University Prague, she focused on international relations and civic education.

Concept Note

The Think Tanks and Civil Societies Program (TTCSP) currently counts 1.770 think tanks in Europe and even more in the United States of America. The MENA region too is developing an increasingly diverse think tank landscape, to help decision-makers address the growing complexity of policy problems. There are different definitions and types of think tanks, and their importance as central providers of research and policy-advice has vastly increased over the last decades. But in recent years and in light of the inability of inter alia experts at these institutions to predict phenomena of critical dimension such as the Arab uprisings, the Brexit or the possibility of the rise of a candidate and finally president as Donald Trump, think tanks have been rethinking and scrutinizing their work and methods. The augmented complexity of challenges and conflicts worldwide and hence the difficulty to develop policy recommendations in the first place are only adding to multiple questions that think tanks need to address.

This study tour aims to tackle some of these core questions: which role and actual impact do think tanks have today? What is the perception of think tank work on the side of policy makers? How can think tanks translate academic research into feasible policy advice? How can think tanks secure funds and conceive comprehensive programs to address pressing issues? How can they make themselves visible and relevant in light of social media dominance, and how can they obtain a national as well as international reputation within an increasingly competitive field?

These and similar questions are addressed in this study tour, which aims to equip participants from countries of the MENA region and the EU (all Alumni of the EU-Middle East Forum EUMEF) with a deeper understanding of the matter.

Agenda

Wednesday, 22 February

10.00 – 10.30	Opening of the Tour Christian Mölling, Deputy Director of the Research Institute, DGAP Dina Fakoussa, Head of MENA Program, DGAP Irene Weinz, Senior Project Manager, Robert Bosch Stiftung
10.30 – 12.00	Global Trends and Developments in Think Tanks Work Speaker: James G. McGann, Director, Think Tanks and Civil Societies Program, University of Pennsylvania Chair: Dina Fakoussa
12.00 – 12.30	<i>Coffee Break</i>
12.30 – 14.00	European Think Tanks in the Field of Security and Defense – A Critical Assessment Speaker: Christian Mölling Chair: Laura Kabis, Program Officer MENA Program, DGAP
14.00 – 15.00	<i>Lunch & Departure to Robert Bosch Stiftung Berlin</i>
15.30 – 17.00	Worlds Apart? Think Tanks and German Foreign Policy in the MENA Region Speaker: Dina Fakoussa Chair: Laura Kabis
17.00 – 17.30	<i>Coffee Break</i>
17.30 – 19.00	The Bosch Foundation as an Exemplary Facilitator of and Contributor to Think Tank Work Speaker: Markus Lux, Deputy Head of Department, Civil Society and Good Governance, Robert Bosch Stiftung
19.30	<i>Welcome Dinner</i>

Thursday, 23 February

09.30 – 11.00	The Fight Against Corruption – Success Stories Kinda Hattar, Regional Advisor, Middle East and North Africa, Transparency International Deutschland e.V. Chair: Laura Kabis
11.00 – 11.30	<i>Coffee Break</i>
11.30 – 13.30	Objective Research by Party-Affiliated Think Tanks Operating Within an Ideological Framework - A Contradiction? <i>Roundtable with Representatives of Party-Affiliated Think Tanks</i> David Jalilvand, Department for the Middle East and North Africa, Friedrich-Ebert-Stiftung Niko Pewesin, Project Management Middle East and North Africa, Israel, Palestine, Heinrich-Böll-Stiftung Diana Luna, Desk Officer Middle East and North Africa, Friedrich-Naumann-Stiftung für die Freiheit
13.30 – 14.30	<i>Lunch & Departure to the German Federal Foreign Office</i>
15.30 – 17.00	The Impact of Think Tanks on Policy Making Speaker: Heiko Nitzschke, Research Commissioner, Policy Planning Unit, German Federal Foreign Office Chair: Dina Fakoussa
18.00	<i>Dinner at Restaurant</i>

Friday, 24 February

09.30 – 11.00	Advocacy as Engagement: It's not Only About You! Speaker: Lucian Ciolan, Professor and Dean, Faculty of Psychology and Educational Sciences, University of Bucharest; Senior Trainer of the International Centre for Policy Advocacy
11.00 – 11.30	<i>Coffee Break</i>
11.30 – 13.00	Working Group Session (presentation of individual projects for group feedback)
13.00 – 14.00	<i>Lunch</i>
14.00 – 15.00	Plenary Session on Working Groups Findings
15.00 – 15.30	Reimbursements
15.30-16.00	<i>Coffee Break</i>
16.00 – 17.00	Country-specific Working Groups - Adaptability and Lessons Learned
17.00-17.30	Closing Remarks and Feedback Session
18.00	<i>Dinner at DGAP</i>

Speakers (in alphabetical order)

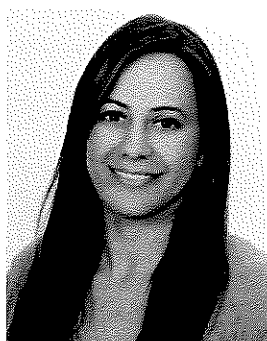
Lucian Ciolan (ROMANIA)



Lucian Ciolan is professor and dean at the Faculty of Psychology and Educational Sciences, University of Bucharest, where he teaches various subjects related to educational policy and research at bachelor, master and doctorate levels. His main areas of professional interest are processes of public and educational policy, learning capacities at individual and organizational levels, research methodologies, training of teachers and trainers as well as performance management. Lucian Ciolan has an extensive experience as senior trainer and policy consultant in national and international projects. In the last years he was involved in consultancy activities, especially in Central and South-Eastern Europe, mainly in EU-funded programs, but also in corporate training and coaching. Lucian Ciolan is a senior trainer at the International Centre for Policy Advocacy, where he is involved in various capacity development projects in the area of policy analysis and communication.

Kinda Hattar (JORDAN)

Kinda Hattar is the regional coordinator for MENA at Transparency International. She is responsible for promoting and supporting all aspects of citizen engagement, knowledge exchange, capacity development, and governance in the MENA regional chapters, including both the overseeing and management of regional projects. In addition, Kinda Hattar monitors the political and anti-corruption developments in countries, analyses reputational risks, and seeks media opportunities in the MENA region to inform the advocacy work of TI in promoting transparency and integrity with all concerned stakeholders. She joined TI from UNDP in Jordan, working on the "Enhancing Capacity of the Ministry for Political Development and Political Parties Project." Kinda Hattar also worked with youth, women, and people with disabilities as the governance project manager at the British Council. She also worked as program coordinator at the National Centre for Human Rights in Jordan. Prior, Kinda Hattar worked as community services officer with Care International, which encouraged her to finish her LLM in human rights law from the University of Nottingham. She started her career as a journalist reporting on human rights. Kinda Hattar holds a first degree BA in journalism and mass communication from the University of Yarmouk.



David Ramin Jalilvand (GERMANY)



David Ramin Jalilvand works with the Middle East and North Africa department of the Friedrich-Ebert-Stiftung. At its headquarters in Berlin, he is in charge of the foundation's Iran project. Moreover, David Ramin Jalilvand coordinates activities on Iraq and Jordan. He holds a PhD in political science from the Freie Universität Berlin and studied in London, Moscow, and Erfurt.

Diana Luna (GERMANY/MEXICO)

Diana Luna has been working as regional manager for the Middle East and North Africa Division at the Friedrich-Naumann-Stiftung für die Freiheit (FNF) since 2015. Prior to this position, she worked at the German Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development. From 2009 to 2012, she occupied several positions, including the project coordination of the Liberal Network for Latin America at the FNF Latin America Regional Office in Mexico City. Diana Luna studied international relations at the Technical University of Dresden and at the Mexico Autonomous Institute of Technology.



Markus Lux (GERMANY)

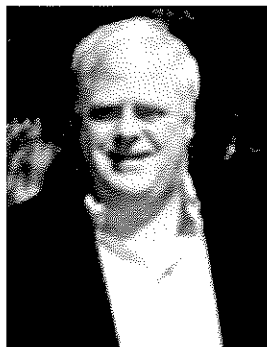


Markus Lux is currently deputy head of the department "International Relations - Europe and its Neighbours" of the Robert Bosch Stiftung GmbH in Stuttgart, Germany. He is responsible for the topics "International Affairs and Global Issues", "Civil Society International" and "Building a Stronger Europe." Since January 2016, he also holds the position of advisor for strategic development for alumni and social investing. He has been at the Robert Bosch Stiftung since 2002. From 1996 to 2002 he was a visiting lecturer at several universities in Latvia and a researcher at the "Jews in Latvia" museum in Riga. From 1993 to 1996 Markus Lux worked for the German public television

channel ZDF in Mainz. He studied history and politics at the universities of Mainz and Riga.

James G. McGann (USA)

James G. McGann is a senior lecturer of international studies at the Lauder Institute and director of the Think Tanks and Civil Societies Program at the University of Pennsylvania. Prior to assuming his current post, James G. McGann was assistant director of the International Relations Program at the University of Pennsylvania. He has also served as the senior vice president for the Executive Council on Foreign Diplomats, the assistant director of the Institute of Politics, Kennedy School of Government, and the public policy program officer for The Pew Charitable Trusts. He earned his MA and PhD from the University of Pennsylvania. He was a national



fellow at Stanford University while writing his doctoral thesis, which examined the nature and evolution of public-policy research organizations in the United States, such as Brookings Institution, Heritage Foundation, Urban Institute, and others. James G. McGann is the creator and editor of the Global Go To Think Tank Index. His research and consulting have enabled him to work with governments, public and private donors, and civil society organizations in over 104 countries. His new book "The Fifth Estate: Think Tanks, Public Policy, and Governance" (Brookings Press) explores the role think tanks play in shaping foreign and domestic policy in the United States.

Heiko Nitzschke (GERMANY)



Heiko Nitzschke works in the Policy Planning Unit at the German Foreign Office, responsible inter alia for relations with think tanks and academia, strategy and foresight. Previously, he was a member of the Security Council team at the German UN Mission in New York covering Syria, Libya, Yemen, peacekeeping and peacebuilding, and Security Council reform (2011-14). From 2009-11, he served as Deputy Head of Mission at the German Embassy in Sudan, and as political affairs officer with the UN Mission in Sudan, UNMIS from 2008-09. He was desk officer for UN Peacekeeping at the Foreign Office in Berlin from 2004-2009. Before that, Heiko Nitzschke was

senior program manager at the International Peace Academy (now International Peace Institute) in New York. He holds master's degrees from the School of International and Public Affairs (SIPA), Columbia University, and Potsdam University. He is co-editor of "Profiting from Peace: Managing the Resource Dimension of Armed Conflict" (Lynne Rienner, 2006), and has written various chapters, reports, and journal articles on peace and security issues - most recently the Sudan country case in "The UN Security Council in the 21st Century" (edited by von Einsiedel, Malone, and Ugarte. Lynne Rienner, 2016).

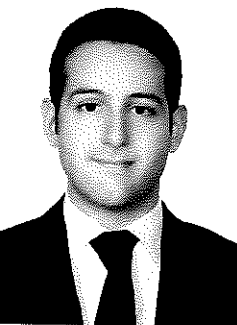
Niko Pewesin (GERMANY)

Niko Pewesin has been working on Palestine, Israel and Jordan in the Middle East and North Africa Department of the Heinrich-Böll-Stiftung in Berlin since 2014. Prior, being trained in methods of conflict transformation, he managed the office of the German civil peace service (ZFD) in Jericho, Palestine for two years. Before that, Niko Pewesin worked as a program coordinator in the Israel-office of the Friedrich-Ebert-Stiftung. Born in Berlin, he studied Middle Eastern science, modern history and areas of law in Berlin, Cairo, and Tel Aviv.



Participants (in alphabetical order)

Nadim Abillama (FRANCE/LEBANON)



Nadim Abillama is currently completing the Blue Book Programme at the European Commission's Directorate-General for Neighbourhood and Enlargement Negotiations (NEAR) in Brussels. He previously worked at the National Democratic Institute for International Affairs' Beirut office, the United Nations Relief and Works Agency (UNRWA) and the Carnegie Endowment for International Peace – Middle East Center. Nadim currently focuses on energy and security in the Mediterranean region. He studied political science, international relations and public policy.

Nehal Ali (EGYPT)



Nehal Ali is an Egyptian feminist, researcher, and monitoring and evaluation specialist. Working at the Egyptian Center for Women's Rights (ECWR), Nehal has been involved in several national projects aiming to empower Egyptian women and to promote women's rights. Nehal currently works on "the Egyptian National Strategy for Combating Gender-based Violence", adopted by the National Council for Women, in cooperation with government entities, in addition to representatives from the civil society. Nehal's current research interest is gender mainstreaming in public policy in the MENA region. She obtained her masters' degree in public policy from Sabanci University in Istanbul. Her thesis analyzed the applicability of conditional cash transfers as a social safety scheme in Egypt.

Rabha Allam (EGYPT)



Rabha Allam has worked as a researcher at the Al-Ahram Center for Political and Strategic Studies (ACPSS) since 2005. She specializes in Islamist movements, security studies, and Syrian and Lebanese affairs. Rabha is currently also enrolled as a PhD candidate at Cairo University. She has authored many publications, including "The Syrian Civil War & Disordered Balances in the Arab Mashreq" (2015), "Syria - Military Interactions on a Moving Map" (2015) and "The Egyptian Policy towards the Syrian Conflict" (2016). Rabha is also the main author of "Women in Conflict - The Conditions of the Female Refugees and IDPs in the Arab World" (2016), co-

sponsored by the Arab Women Organization and UN Women, which entailed field work in refugee camps and settlements in Lebanon, Jordan, Iraq, and Egypt. She holds an MA in political science from Cairo University and a second MA in public policy from the American University in Cairo. In the framework of this degree, Rabha studied a semester abroad as part of the security studies program at the Elliott School of International Affairs, George Washington University, US.

Tachfine Baïda (MOROCCO)



Tachfine Baïda is currently working as a human rights expert at the Embassy of Belgium in Morocco. He previously worked as a project coordinator at the Konrad-Adenauer-Stiftung in Morocco, where he was in charge of the democratization portfolio. He also worked as program assistant at the United Nations Development Programme and as public relations intern at the UN High Commissioner for Refugees in Rabat. His areas of focus are mainly Middle Eastern and North African politics, gender, and human rights. Tachfine completed an MA in human rights law at the School of Oriental and African Studies, University of London, after obtaining a Chevening Scholarship. He also completed BA and MA degrees in international studies and diplomacy at Al Akhawayn University in Ifrane, Morocco.

Laura Batalla Adam (SPAIN)

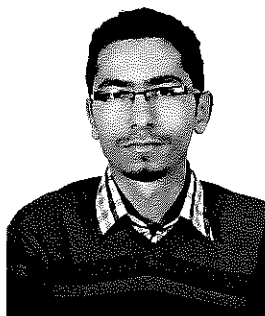


Laura Batalla Adam is the head of office and political advisor to a member of the Greens/European Free Alliance group. Since September 2014, she is also the secretary general of the Friends of Turkey group in the European Parliament. Laura is an independent Turkey analyst. Her research focuses on Turkish foreign policy in general and EU-Turkey relations in particular. She has published articles in Turkish Policy Quarterly, Turkish Review and other journals. With the aim of having an in-depth knowledge of Turkey and Turkey's accession to the EU, she has participated in several civil society projects in Turkey and worked in the Turkish Ministry for EU Affairs.

As a result of her expertise, Laura has embarked on a series of projects in order to bring Europe closer to Turkey and vice versa. Laura holds a BA in political science and a BA in journalism from Pompeu Fabra University. In 2010, she graduated from the College of Europe with an MA in European political and administrative studies.

Ilyass Bouzghaia (MOROCCO)

Ilyass Bouzghaia is a researcher at the Center for Women's Studies in Islam affiliated with the Rabita Mohammadia of Ulema. He has been a PhD candidate at Sidi Mohamed Ben Abdellah University, Fes, since 2013. His field of research includes - amongst others - women's rights, gender studies and feminism, family studies, Islamic feminism, de-colonial studies, social values and transformation. He is a former teacher of English and the head of the Moroccan Association of Friends of English's media committee. Ilyass has written several articles in English and Arabic and participated in many national and international events. He holds an MA degree in women's and gender studies (2011) and has published his MA thesis titled "The Feminist Movement and Social Change in Morocco - Trends and Impacts" (Lambert Academic Publishing, 2012).



Bengi Ruken Cengiz (TURKEY)



Bengi Ruken Cengiz is a PhD student in political science at Sabanci University in Istanbul. Currently working on her dissertation, which is based upon an original data set on citizenship perceptions, Bengi's academic research focuses on comparative politics, Turkish and Middle Eastern politics, citizenship studies, political institutions, democratic theory, and law and politics. In 2014, Bengi co-founded the Dialogue for Common Future Association in Istanbul, which aims at promoting participation in civil society, especially among youth. Together with the other co-founders, Bengi has initiated "Dogruluk Payı", a fact-checking webpage, as the flagship project of the association. A team of editors, including Bengi, analyze statements of political actors via open source data and publish informative research articles. Gaining experience both in academia and civil society, Bengi plans to work towards bringing these two fields closer throughout her career. She holds a bachelor's degree in political science and a master's degree in human rights.

Giulia Cimini (ITALY)

Giulia Cimini is a PhD student in international studies at the University of Naples L'Orientale and a teaching assistant of political science at the same institution and for the eCampus University. Her doctoral research project explores, through a comparative study of post-2011 Tunisia and Morocco, the different facets and nature of the main political parties in the two countries, the social cleavages they embody, and their role within the transition process or lack thereof. Giulia specialized in Middle Eastern studies and Arabic language and has recently collaborated with the EU-Spring project on "Democracy and Citizenship Rights in North Africa After the Arab Awakening." Her articles appeared on the online review of AffarInternazionali.



Sherif El-Ashmawy (EGYPT)



Sherif El-Ashmawy is a Dubai-based researcher at Control Risks Group, a global risk consultancy firm. Sherif analyses violent incidents across the MENA region for inclusion in the company's Analytics and Incident Mapping (AIM) service - an extensive database of political violence and criminal acts with specific relevance to commercial operations. He also conducts desktop research for consulting projects. Sherif has worked in various institutions and think tanks as a research intern, including the Center for Strategic and International Studies in Washington D.C. and the Cairo-based Arab Forum for Alternatives. He participated in the DGAP EUMEF's international summer school in August 2013 and a workshop on "Deconstructing Arab Gulf States' Engagement in Egypt" held at the AUC in April 2015. Before joining Control Risks, Sherif completed his 13-month military service in Egypt. Sherif graduated from Sciences Po Paris with a master's degree in international relations and as a bachelor's in political science and economics from Cairo University.

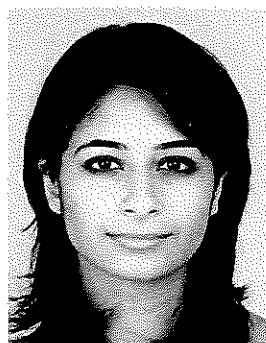
Nahla El-Haddad (EGYPT)

Nahla El-Haddad works as a research consultant at the Committee for Justice, monitoring, documenting and analyzing the human rights violations committed by the current Egyptian regime, as well as preparing research papers and policy recommendations calling for the respect of justice standards. Having passionately participated in the Jan 25 revolution, she was always eager to relate what she is experiencing in the streets of Egypt to the rich academic arena of social sciences concerned with the region. Passionate about the rapidly changing political scenery in Egypt, she joined a number of research hubs and a policy-oriented think tank as a political researcher.



She likes to refer to her professional journey as a juggler's job trying to find constant balance between her activist participation and her career aspirations. Nahla earned her master's degree in "Economic Change in the Arab Region" (a German-Syrian study program) with high honors - an experience that inspired her to extend her attention beyond Egypt.

Myriam Guetat (TUNISIA)



Myriam Guetat is currently a lecturer on human rights and public liberties at the Faculty of Legal, Political and Social Sciences of Tunis. Prior to that, Myriam worked as a legal advisor at a Tunisian law firm and gained experience as a program officer for the Al Kawakibi Democracy Transition Center's (KADEM) project on training relevant actors of transitional justice in Tunisia. This gave Myriam the opportunity to closely follow the process of law writing and consult on its content. In addition, she is involved in many civil society activities, either as a trainer, a speaker, or a consultant on legal and advocacy issues. She is an elected board member of the Tunisian NGO "Appui aux initiatives de développement" and she is endorsing its projects on social integration of women in marginalized regions of Tunisia. Myriam holds a doctoral degree in public law from the University of Nice Sophia Antipolis, where she also earned her master's degree in international and European private and public law.

Shahir Ishak (EGYPT)

Shahir Ishak has ten years of professional experience in the fields of development and advocacy, addressing governance reforms, labor rights, and empowerment programs of marginalized groups. His extensive work background is coupled with rich practice in research, including two master's degrees in international development and political science, a humble list of published materials, and invitations to speak in many distinguished conferences. Notably, Shahir has authored policy analyses and reports on democratic transitions, youth political participation, and labor issues in the MENA region. His professional commitment is complemented by his political activism. Shahir co-founded "Egypt of Freedom" (Misr AlHurriyeh), a social liberal party run on a platform of equal citizenship, pluralism, and social justice. In 2011, he ran in the parliamentary elections at the age of 26 on behalf of the party and was elected as the party's Secretary General in 2013 - a position, which he held for two years.



Arwa Kooli (TUNISIA)

Arwa Kooli is a Tunisian journalist, who has been working for ELAssabah ElOussboui, a weekly independent newspaper based in Tunis, since June 2011. Her main work focuses on national and international political issues with an interest in covering issues related to American and European foreign policy in the MENA region. In addition, Arwa is currently a part-time teacher at the Institute of Press and Sciences of Information in Tunis, providing classes on TV production. She is currently in the final year of her PhD studies, working on social media and political communication in Tunisia. Arwa studied Journalism at the Institute of Press and Sciences of Information in Tunisia, graduating top of her year in 2009. In 2011, Arwa completed her master's degree. In addition, she received several trainings related to journalism and civil society.



Fatma Mabrouk (TUNISIA)

Fatma Mabrouk is a researcher at the Center for Economic and Social Studies and Research (CERES-Tunisia) and an affiliate researcher with GREThA Research Group in Theoretical and Applied Economics - University of Bordeaux). She is a member of the Aquitaine Africa Initiatives Association. She was a junior consultant at the African Development Bank, working in the development research department. Fatma holds a PhD in economics with highest honor from both, the University of Bordeaux and the University of Tunis El Manar, and a master's degree in international economics from the University of Paris Dauphine. Before joining the African Development Bank, she was a teaching assistant for four years at the University of Bordeaux. Her main research interests relate to migration and remittances, trade and regional integration, and inclusive economic development.



Souhira Medini (FRANCE/TUNISIA)



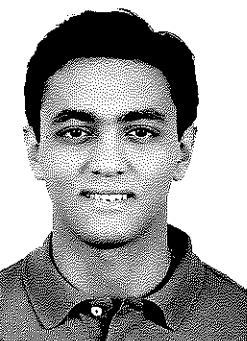
Souhira Medini is a French diplomat, currently working as Egypt desk officer at the French Foreign Ministry in Paris. From 2014-2016, she was press and communications officer at the French Embassy in Cairo. As an intern, she was involved in several organizations like the NGO Karama for ending violence against women (Cairo, 2012) or the Turkish think tank TESEV (Istanbul, 2013) and participated in several seminars. Souhira received her master's degree in Mediterranean and Middle East studies from Sciences Po Grenoble and participated in the "Yearly Arabic Programme" at the Institut Français du Proche-Orient (Beirut).

Wiem Melki (TUNISIA)

Wiem Melki is the Tunisia associate at the Natural Resource Governance Institute - an international think tank promoting transparency and good governance in the energy sector. She leads a program, which targets local civil society organizations and includes capacity building, research, and grants. The program aims at empowering local oversight actors in understanding available information on oil and phosphate and advocating for more disclosure, policy reform, and accountability. In addition, Wiem is currently the vice curator of the Global Shapers Tunis Hub, a World Economic Forum initiative gathering youth leaders from all over the world who are committed to making social changes in their communities. Prior, Wiem worked with the Tunisian Women for Common Ground - a Search for Common Ground initiative on policy reforms related to women leadership positions in the public sector - bringing together 16 secular and non-secular women organizations. She also served as senior project coordinator of five youth councils working on local governance and youth-related issues in different regions. Wiem holds a BA in English studies from the Faculty of Social and Human Sciences in Tunis and is a former Fulbright scholar.



Ahmed Mohammed (EGYPT)



Ahmed Mohammed is a teaching assistant at the British University in Egypt and a MA student of Euro-Med studies at Cairo University with a focus on EU foreign policy. He participated in a number of conferences, workshops, and forums in Egypt, Germany, and the United States, focusing on foreign policy, international relations, and development in the Middle East. Ahmed is currently pursuing a career in diplomacy at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

Mozynah Nofal (EGYPT)

Mozynah Nofal is currently completing a master's degree in leadership, curriculum, and policy studies in the department of education at the University of Ottawa. She is also an academic manager at the Canadian Bureau for International Education, building foreign relations through the promotion of Canadian educational institutions globally. In 2014, Mozynah established the first school in the Syrian refugee camp in Akkar, Lebanon, and has since worked on sustaining educational activities catered to refugees' specific needs in that area. She also finished a UN learning internship in Geneva through CIVICUS in 2014, where she participated in the Human Rights Council session as well as other UN mechanisms and bodies. Mozynah has conducted research in the fields of human rights, education, development, and the Arab world. She has also worked with the World Bank's International Program for Development and Evaluation Training (IPDET) as program officer. Shortly after she completed her bachelor's degree, Mozynah worked in the field of human rights in Egypt and reported on the events of 2013. She holds a bachelor's degree in public affairs and policy management with a specialization in development studies from Carleton University in Ottawa.



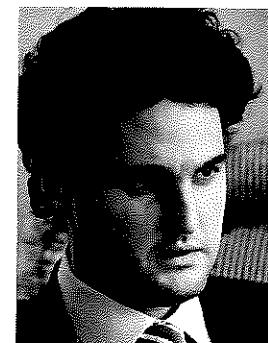
Benjamin Preisler (GERMANY)



Benjamin Preisler currently works for NATO in a civilian capacity, focusing on the socio-economics of North Africa, ever since a stint in the European Commission based in Brussels. Prior, he studied and interned in Austria, France, and the US. Following a MA in political science and macroeconomics from the Freie Universität Berlin, he worked for the Ecole Nationale d'Administration and an American political risk consultancy - Stratfor. Benjamin also holds a MA in European interdisciplinary studies with a focus on the single market from the College of Europe Natolin.

George Tzogopoulos (GREECE)

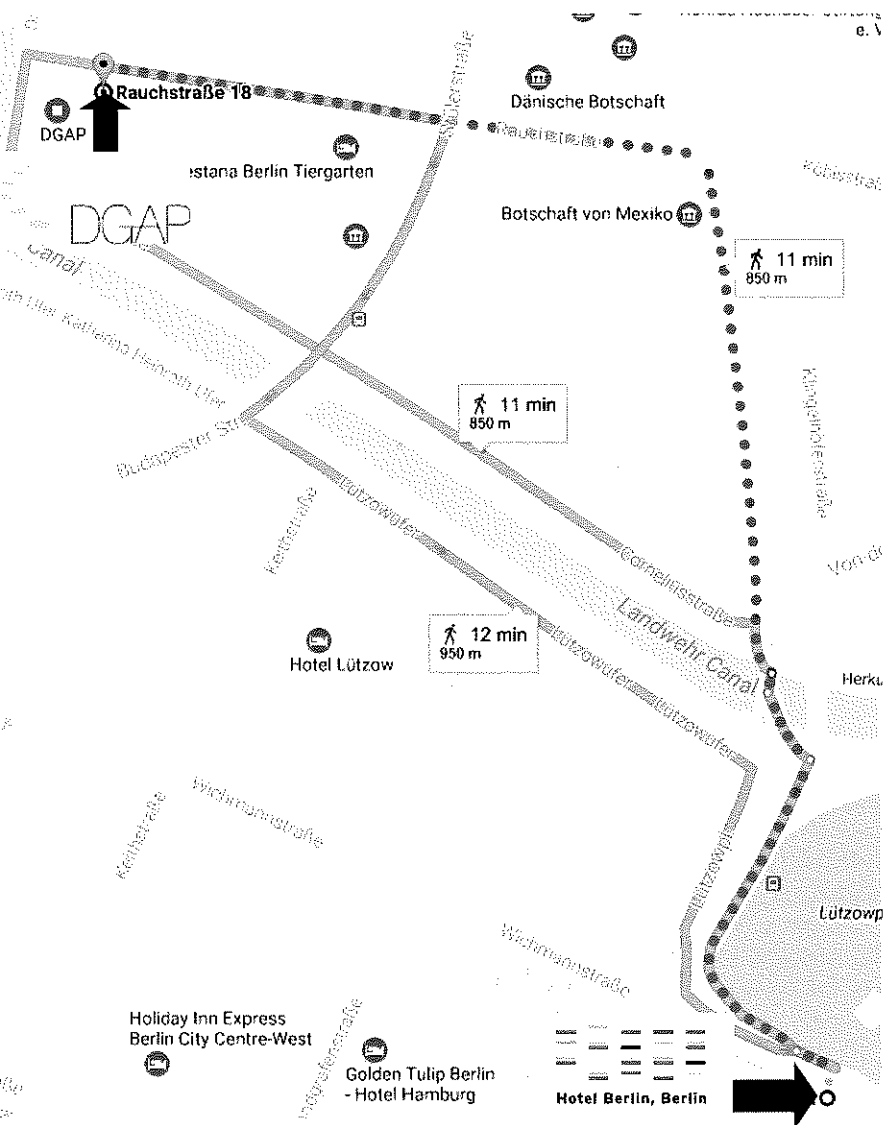
George Tzogopoulos is a lecturer at the Democritus University of Thrace and visiting lecturer at the European Institute in Nice. He is also a research fellow at the Hellenic Foundation for European and Foreign Policy (ELIAMEP) and research associate at the European Council on Foreign Relations (ECFR). George is the founder of chinaandgreece.com, an online platform analysing Sino-European relations, as well as a regular columnist in Global Times, china.org.cn, and the Greek daily Estia. His first book, titled "US Foreign Policy in the European Media - Framing the Rise and Fall of Neoconservatism" was published by IB TAURIS. His second book, titled "The Greek Crisis in the Media", was published by Ashgate.



Conference Venue

DGAP Deutsche Gesellschaft für Auswärtige Politik e.V.

Rauchstraße 17/18 | 10787 Berlin



The **Hotel Berlin, Berlin** is located about 10 walking minutes away from the conference venue at DGAP.

- To reach the venue from your hotel, hold left when walking out of the hotel and turn right at the next street to stay on "Lützowplatz".
- Cross to the left side of the street and cross the bridge across the canal.
- Continue on "Klingelhöferstraße" for about 300 meters and then turn left into "Rauchstraße".
- The DGAP is the last building on the left.

Hotel and Directions

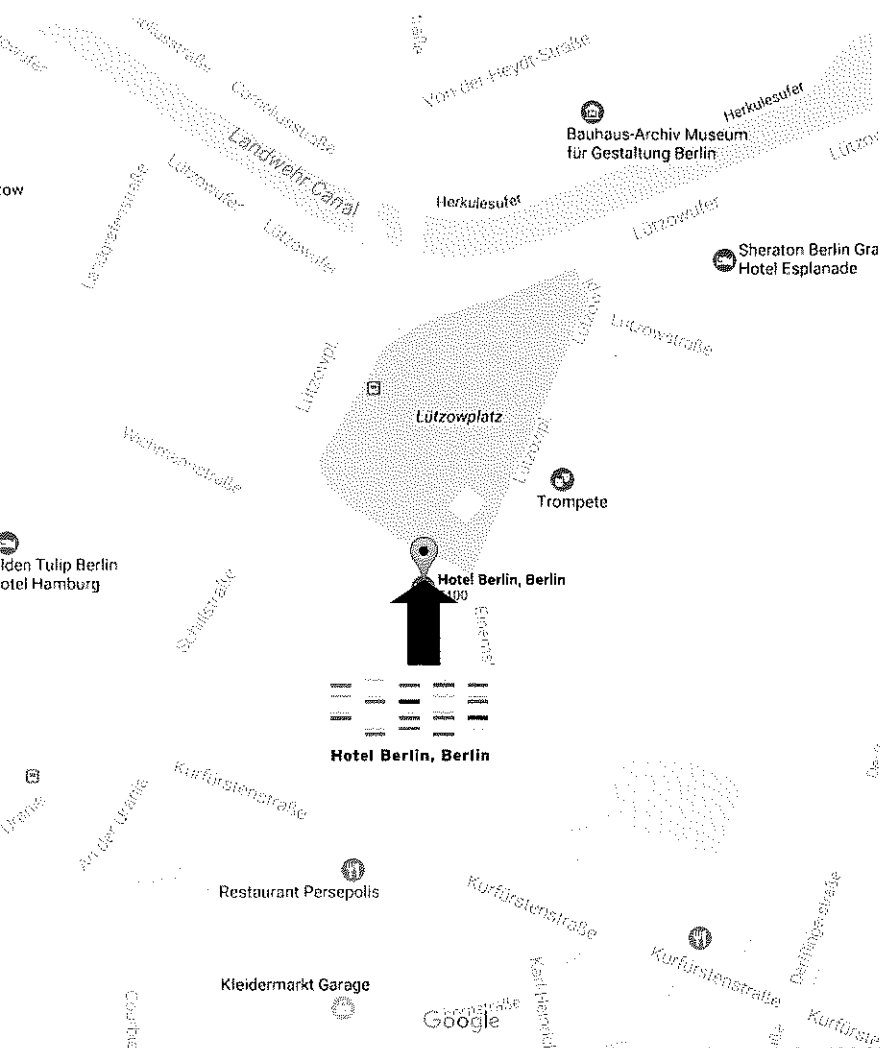
Hotel Berlin, Berlin

Lützowplatz 17 | 10785 Berlin

tel. +49 (0)30 26050

http://www.hotel-berlin.de/en

info@hotel-berlin.de



TRANSFER TO DGAP/ HOTEL BERLIN, BERLIN

FROM AIRPORT BERLIN TEGEL (TXL)

- Take **Bus X9**, direction “Zoologischer Garten”, and get off at “Zoologischer Garten” which is the last stop (5 stops, approx. 20 minutes).
- **To DGAP:** Change to **Bus 200**, direction “Michelangelostraße”, and get off at “Corneliusbrücke” (3 stops, approx. 10 minutes),
 - Walk about 30 meters in the driving direction of the bus and turn left into “Rauchstraße”. The DGAP is the last building on the left.
- **To Hotel Berlin, Berlin:** Change to **Bus 100**, direction “S+U Alexanderplatz”, and get off at “Lützowplatz” (4 stops, approx. 6 minutes).
 - Walk about 50 meters against the driving direction of the bus. The Hotel Berlin, Berlin is located on your left side (see map above).

FROM AIRPORT BERLIN SCHÖNEFELD (SXF)

- Walk to the S-Bahn/train station and take **S-Bahn “S 9”**, direction “S+U Pankow”, and get off at “Ostkreuz” (9 stops, approx. 25 minutes).
- Change to **S-Bahn “S 5”**, direction “Spandau”, and get off at “S+U Zoologischer Garten” (10 stops, approx. 20 minutes).
- **To DGAP:** Take **Bus 200**, direction “Michelangelostraße”, and get off at “Corneliusbrücke” (3 stops, approx. 10 minutes),
 - Walk about 30 meters in the driving direction of the bus and turn left into “Rauchstraße”. The DGAP is the last building on the left.
- **To Hotel Berlin, Berlin:** Change to **Bus 100**, direction “S+U Alexanderplatz”, and get off at “Lützowplatz” (4 stops, approx. 6 minutes).
 - Walk about 50 meters against the driving direction of the bus. The Hotel Berlin, Berlin is located on your left side (see map above).

OR

- Walk to the train station “S Flughafen Berlin-Schönefeld Bf” and take the **train RE7**, direction „S+U Zoologischer Garten” **or RB14**, direction “Nauen”. Get off at “Zoologischer Garten”.
- **To DGAP:** Take **Bus 200**, direction “Michelangelostraße”, get off at the third stop “Corneliusbrücke”,
 - Walk about 30 meters in the driving direction of the bus and turn left into “Rauchstraße”. The DGAP is the last building on the left.
- **To Hotel Berlin, Berlin:** Change to **Bus 100**, direction “S+U Alexanderplatz”, and get off at “Lützowplatz” (4 stops, approx. 6 minutes).
 - Walk about 50 meters against the driving direction of the bus. The Hotel Berlin, Berlin is located on your left side (see map above).

FROM BERLIN MAIN STATION („BERLIN HBF“)

- Take any **S-Bahn** leaving from **track 16** (S5, S9, S75, all westbound), direction “Zoologischer Garten”, “Westkreuz”, “Spandau” (3 stops, approx. 5 minutes) and get off at “Zoologischer Garten”.
- **To DGAP:** take **Bus 200**, direction “Michelangelostraße” and get off at “Corneliusbrücke” (3 stops, approx. 10 minutes),
 - Walk about 30 meters in the driving direction of the bus and turn left into “Rauchstraße”. The DGAP is the last building on the left.
- **To Hotel Berlin, Berlin:** Change to **Bus 100**, direction “S+U Alexanderplatz”, and get off at “Lützowplatz” (4 stops, approx. 6 minutes).
 - Walk about 50 meters against the driving direction of the bus. The Hotel Berlin, Berlin is located on your left side (see map above).

TAXIS

Taxis are available at the airport and main station. **Please note that due to regulations by its donors DGAP does not cover taxi costs!** The estimated fares are as follows:

Tegel Airport (TXL) to DGAP, Rauchstr. 17/18: approx. 15-20€
Schönefeld Airport (SXF) to DGAP, Rauchstr. 17/18: approx. 30-35€
Berlin Main Station (Hbf) to DGAP, Rauchstr. 17/18: approx. 10-15€

Think Tanks & Civil Societies Program

The Lauder Institute

The University of Pennsylvania

“Helping to bridge the gap between knowledge and policy”

Researching the trends and challenges facing
think tanks, policymakers, and policy-oriented
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All requests, questions, and comments should be directed to

James G. McGann, Ph.D.

Senior Lecturer, International Studies

Director

Think Tanks and Civil Societies Program

The Lauder Institute

University of Pennsylvania



About TTCSP

Think Tanks and Civil Societies Program

The Think Tanks and Civil Societies Program (TTCSP) of the Lauder Institute at the University of Pennsylvania conducts research on the role policy institutes play in governments and civil societies around the world. Often referred to as the “think tanks’ think tank,” TTCSP examines the evolving role and character of public policy research organizations. Over the last 30 years, the TTCSP has developed and led a series of global initiatives that have helped bridge the gap between knowledge and policy in critical policy areas such as international peace and security, globalization and governance, international economics, environmental issues, information and society, poverty alleviation, and healthcare and global health. These international collaborative efforts are designed to establish regional and international networks of policy institutes and communities that improve policy making while strengthening democratic institutions and civil societies around the world.

The TTCSP works with leading scholars and practitioners from think tanks and universities in a variety of collaborative efforts and programs and produces the annual Global Go To Think Tank Index that ranks the world’s leading think tanks in a variety of categories. This is achieved with the help of a panel of over 1,900 peer institutions and

experts from the print and electronic media, academia, public and private donor institutions, and governments around the world. We have strong relationships with leading think tanks around the world, and our annual Think Tank Index is used by academics, journalists, donors and the public to locate and connect with the leading centers of public policy research around the world. Our goal is to increase the profile and performance of think tanks and raise the public awareness of the important role think tanks play in governments and civil societies around the globe.

Since its inception in 1989, the TTCSP has focused on collecting data and conducting research on think tank trends and the role think tanks play as civil society actors in the policy-making process. To date TTCSP has provided technical assistance and capacity building programs in 81 countries. We are now working to create regional and global networks of think tanks in an effort to facilitate collaboration and the production of a modest yet achievable set of global public goods. Our goal is to create lasting institutional and state-level partnerships by engaging and mobilizing think tanks that have demonstrated their ability to produce high quality policy research and shape popular and elite opinion and actions for public good.

The Lauder Institute of Management and International Studies

The Lauder Institute of Management and International Studies offers an M.A. in international studies and conducts fundamental and policy-oriented research on current economic, political, and business issues. It organizes an annual

conference that brings academics, practitioners, and policy makers together to examine global challenges such as financial risks, sustainability, inequality, and the future of the state.

University of Pennsylvania

The University of Pennsylvania (Penn) is an Ivy League school with highly selective admissions and a history of innovation in interdisciplinary education and scholarship. Its peer institutions are Harvard, Stanford, Columbia, Brown, Dartmouth, and the University of Chicago in the US and Oxford and Cambridge in the UK. A world-class research institution, Penn boasts a picturesque campus in the middle of Philadelphia, a dynamic city that is conveniently located between Washington, D.C. and New York, New York. Benjamin Franklin founded the University of

Pennsylvania in 1740 to push the frontiers of knowledge and benefit society by integrating study in the liberal arts and sciences with opportunities for research and practical, pre-professional training at both the undergraduate and graduate levels. Penn is committed to meeting the full-demonstrated need of all undergraduates with grant-based financial aid, making this intellectually compelling integration of liberal and professional education accessible to talented students of all backgrounds and empowering them to make an impact on the world.

TTCSP Recent and Forthcoming Publications:

Think Tanks: The New Knowledge and Policy Brokers in Asia (Brookings Press and Asian Development Bank Institute, 2019) <https://www.brookings.edu/book/think-tanks/>

Trends and Transitions in Security Expertise from Deterrence to Climate Change and Back Again (Routledge, 2017) <https://www.routledge.com/Global-Trends-and-Transitions-in-Security-Expertise-From-Nuclear-Deterrence/McGann/p/book/9781138304000>

Think Tanks, Foreign Policy and the Emerging Power Policy Networks (MacMillan, 2017) <https://www.palgrave.com/us/book/9783319603117>

Think Tanks and Emerging Power Policy Networks (MacMillan, 2017) <https://www.palgrave.com/us/book/9783319719542>

The Fifth Estate: Think Tanks Public Policy and Governance (Brookings, 2016) <https://www.brookings.edu/wp-content/uploads/2016/06/chapter-one-the-fifth-estate.pdf>

Think Tanks and SDGs: Catalysts for Analysis, Innovation and Implementation (TTCSP 2015) <http://www.lulu.com/shop/james-mcgann/think-tanks-and-sdgs-catalysts-for-analysis-innovation-and-implementation/paperback/product-22563604.html>

How Think Tanks Shape Development Policies (University of Pennsylvania Press, 2014) <http://www.upenn.edu/pennpress/book/15244.html>

Security Expertise Practice, Power, Responsibility (Chapter 6) (2014 Routledge) <https://www.routledge.com/Security-Expertise-Practice-Power-Responsibility/Berling-Bueger/p/book/9781138819115>

Think Tanks and Global Policy Networks, Chapter in an edited volume (Routledge, 2013) <https://www.routledge.com/International-Organization-and-Global-Governance/Weiss-Wilkinson/p/book/9781138236585>

Global Think Tanks, Policy Networks and Governance (Routledge, 2010) <https://www.routledge.com/Global-Think-Tanks-Policy-Networks-and-Governance/McGann-Sabatini/p/book/9780415779791>